oils etc. are distributed at reasonable prices to the common man and which also operate as an anti-inflationary measure, is being strengthened and expanded foodgrains at cheaper rates are distributed in tribal areas, under special schemes like the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Gurantee Programme.

Slum clearance in Uttar Pradesh

749. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to increase central grants for the slum clearance and rehabilitation of slum dwellers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The present policy of the Government emphasises on environmental improvement of urban slums in site rather than their massive clearance or relocation. This is done under the Scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums funds for the scheme are provided in the State Plans. There is no provision for Central grants under the Scheme.

(b) Does not arise.

Government accommodation for Central Govt. Employees with 15 to 20 years of service

750. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Government employees whose length of service is between 15 and 20 years and have not yet been allotted Government accommodation; and

(b) by when such employees are likely to be provided with Government accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) ON the basis of restricted applications received for the current allotment year, 37,009 Central Government employees are waiting for allotment of general pool accommodation in Delhi for type A to D. This does not include higher type of accommodation for which allotment is made on the basis of emoluments drawn on the crucial date of allotment year.

(b) No specific period can be indicated as it depends on the demand/availability in each type of accommodation.

Price of Sugar

751. SHRI VERENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that price of indigenous sugar had risen from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per quintal in the wholesale market during the last few months instead of any decline with the release of substantially higher quota for levy and free sale sugar for March, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to contain the prices of sugar in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The price of indigenous sugar are being maintained at reasonable levels through suitable regulatory measures taken by Government including judicious release of freesale sugar each month. The wholesale prices of sugar in principal markets in the country have been showing a downward trend in recent months. These were in the range of Rs. 588-620 per quintal as on 18th April, 1987 as against the range of Rs. 615-650 per quintal as on 15th January, 1987.